

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC

APPROVED BY NEA - MR. ATHERTON

NEA - MR. DAY

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S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 259715

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, SY, US

SUBJECT: VISITS TO CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON

REF: BEIRUT 7932

1. WE APPRECIATE THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT LED TO YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS IN REFTEL THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD NOW BEGIN TO RESTORE ITS CONTACTS IN CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON, COMMENCING WITH YOUR PROPOSED VISIT IN LATE OCTOBER. CONFIRMING WHAT HAS BEEN PASSED TO YOU IN SECURE VOICE COMMUNICATION, WE BELIEVE IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO AUTHORIZE YOU TO TRAVEL TO CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON. WE REMAIN OPEN-MINDED, HOWEVER AND WILL BE WATCHING CLOSELY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE RIYADH ACCORDS PRODUCE A SITUATION IN WHICH YOU AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE ABOUT SOMEWHAT MORE FREELY.

2. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WANT YOU AND YOUR STAFF TO KNOW

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THAT THE REPORTING AND ANALYSES YOU HAVE BEEN DOING, WHILE

OVERCOMING SERIOUS OBSTACLES, HAVE BEEN OUTSTANDING. THEY ARE READ AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO OUR EVALUATIONS OF THE EVOLVING CONFLICT.

3. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. IT IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED. ROBINSON

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NNN

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